



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Region One

Northern Region  
200 East Broadway  
Missoula, MT 59802

File Code: 1570 (215)  
#12-01-00-0073

Date: June 4, 2012

Sara Jane Johnson  
Native Ecosystems Council  
PO Box 125  
Willow Creek, MT 59760

**CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN  
RECEIPT REQUESTED  
NUMBER: 7011 0110 0001 4030 3222**

Dear Ms. Johnson:

This is my decision on the disposition of the appeal you filed, on behalf of Native Ecosystems Council, Alliance for the Wild Rockies and Western Watersheds Project, regarding the Trapper Creek Vegetation Management DN/FONSI, signed by the Forest Supervisor of the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest.

My review of your appeal was conducted pursuant to, and in accordance with, 36 CFR 215.18 to ensure the analysis and decision are in compliance with applicable laws, regulations, policy, and orders. I have reviewed the appeal record, including your arguments, the information referenced in the Forest Supervisor's May 9, 2012 transmittal letter, and the Appeal Reviewing Officer's analysis and recommendation (copy enclosed). The transmittal letter provides the specific page references to discussions in the DN and project file, which bear upon your objections. I specifically incorporate in this decision the appeal record, the references and citations contained in the transmittal letter, and the Appeal Reviewing Officer's analysis and recommendation.

The Appeal Reviewing Officer has considered your arguments, the appeal record, and the transmittal letter and recommends the Forest Supervisor's decision be affirmed and your requested relief be denied.

Based upon a review of the references and citations provided by the Forest Supervisor, I find the objections were adequately considered and addressed in the DN/FONSI. I agree with the Appeal Reviewing Officer's analysis and conclusions in regard to your appeal objections. I find the Forest Supervisor has made a reasoned decision and has complied with all laws, regulations, and policy.

After careful consideration of the above factors, I affirm and approve the Forest Supervisor's decision to implement the Trapper Creek Vegetation Management Project. Your requested relief is denied.

Sincerely,

  
JANE L. COTTRELL  
Deputy Regional Forester

cc: Dave Myers, Jan M Bowey, Ray G Smith, Kim Smolt

